



The Cleveland HUB



Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center - Spinal Cord Injury Unit

Spinal Cord Injury Patients Served 10/1/2001 - 9/30/2002

Admission

383 Veterans

Discharge Disposition	Community Hospital	3
	Community Nursing Home	13
	Community Independent	331
	State Home	3
	VA Domiciliary	3
	VA Medical Center	11
	VA Nursing Care Unit	15
Patients Served (Major Diagnosis)	Quadriplegia	54
	Paraplegia	38
	Pressure Ulcers	28
	Urinary Tract Infections	22
	Multiple Sclerosis	19
	Rehabilitation	24
	Orthopedics	77

Rehabilitation 5th Floor Patients Served 10/1/2001 - 9/30/2002

Admission

64 Veterans

Discharge Disposition	Return to Acute Facility	31
	Home	3
	Acute facility	6
	SNF/LTCF	1
Patients Served (Major Diagnosis)	Orthopedic	21
	Stroke	16
	Neurological	4
	Amputee	11
	Medical Complication	6

SCI CARF Patients Served 10/1/2001 - 9/30/2002

Admission

25 Veterans

Patients Served (Major Diagnosis)	High Tetraplegia	0
	Low Tetraplegia	3
	Paraplegia	7
	Incomplete Injuries	10
	Multiple Sclerosis	5

Who's Who!

Robert Louis Ruff, M.D., Ph.D

R. Louis Ruff, M.D., Ph.D. is a neurologist and biophysicist interested in Neuro-Rehabilitation. He received his M.D. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Washington. He is a Professor of Neurology, and Vice-Chair of the Neurology Department at Case Western Reserve University. He is Chief of the Spinal Cord Injury & Dysfunction Service at the Louis Stokes Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Cleveland. He is the Medical Director of the FES Center in Cleveland, a VA Rehab Research Center of Excellence. Dr. Ruff was the Associate Editor of the journal "Neurology" from 1994 through 1996. He has been on the editorial board of the "Journal of Rehabilitation Research and Development" since 1999. His clinical research interests include treatment of persons with spinal cord compression due to cancer and stroke rehabilitation.

Dr. Ruff is married to Dr. Suzanne (Powell) Ruff. They are the parents of five children. In his spare time he enjoys working with computers and supporting nonprofit organizations. He also enjoys bird watching and fishing.

Gloria J. Norris

Gloria Norris is a graduate of Alabama State University with a BS Degree and Tennessee State University with a Masters. Gloria Norris began her career with the Veterans Administration in 1971 as a Kinesiotherapist after teaching school for one year. While working as a Kinesiotherapist, Gloria further pursued her profession by taking college courses in Administration. She assumed the role of Supervisor of Kinesiotherapy 13 years ago. She became acting Administrative Officer in 2000. In this position she worked under the supervision of Mrs. Dorothy Torrence, Co-Care Line Manager. Gloria also assumed the responsibility of Coordinator of the SCI Registry. Gloria became Supervisory Rehabilitation Therapist in February 2003. She is the Coordinator of CARF and JCAHO for the Rehab/SCI/D Care Line. She is also Coordinator of the National Wheelchair Games, Winter Sports Clinic, and State Wheelchair Games.

Gloria enjoys traveling and participating in a variety of family activities. She has one son, Dr. Lorenzo Norris who is a Psychiatrist at Mt. Sinai Hospital in New York.

Calendar of Events

1. SCI Peer Support Group meets quarterly, the next meeting will be December 17, 2003, Cleveland VAMC SCI Unit. If you need additional information please contact Maureen West.
2. CARF Survey March, 2004
3. JACHO Survey 2004.
4. National Veteran Winter Wheelchair Games, Snow Mass, CO, April 4-9-2004
5. Ohio State Wheelchair Games, Columbus, OH May 21-23, 2004 Ohio State University campus.
6. National Veteran Summer Wheelchair Games, St. Louis, MO June 21-26 2004
7. National Wheelchair Poolplayers Assoc. 2003/2004 Billiard Pool Tournaments: For additional information contact Lance Kepler @ (714) 636-3371

January	Rochester, MN
March	Brea, CA
April	Las Vegas, NV
June	St. Louis, MO
July	TBA

What's new?

SCI Cleveland is preparing for our 2004 CARF and JCAHO certifications. Our goal is to continue to be a provider of choice, where excellence is the standard not the exception.

We would like to welcome our new staff nurses:

Mark Erkkinen, RN
Sharon Foster-Geeter, RN
Leslie Hill, RN,
Brenda Presswood, RN
Patrick Reinke, LPN
Victoria Townsend, RN

We would also like to congratulate several SCI nurses who are continuing to gain knowledge through innovative nursing opportunities:

Cassandra Baldwin, RN-SCI Charge Nurse
Deirdra Johnson-Jennings, RN Homecare Nurse

Congratulations go out to SCI Cleveland! We are one of only a few SCI Centers utilizing the “coughalator” for respiratory management.

The SCI Peer Support Group meets every-for SCI inpatients and outpatients. Contact Maureen West for more information.

SCI Cleveland has the honor of having several research projects already in progress:

Fampridine-SR, a multi-center trial
Silver Hydrogel Catheters, for chronic SCI
Pulsatile Lavage

SCI Cleveland also received two emergency technology grants 2003:

The Use of Electrical Stimulation at Home for the Prevention of Pressure Ulcers and Utilization of Home Care Telehealth System to Reduce Readmission Rate for Persons with SCI.

In addition, the “Pressor” pressure alert device has been funded and is awaiting regulatory approval.

Services Rendered

LSVAMC-Cleveland offers a wide range of services including:

- Acute Rehabilitation Skilled
 - Nursing Care
 - Outpatient Clinic
 - Physical therapy
 - Occupational therapy
 - Recreational therapy
 - Research Programs
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Contact List

Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) Staff

Robert L. Ruff, MD	Chief, SCI
Donald Bodner, MD	Physician
Graham Creasey, MD	Physician
Barbara Gothe, MD	Physician
Chester H. Ho, MD	Physician
Shamsi Lashgari, MD	Physician
Douglas Murphy, MD	Physician
Thomas Dixon, PhD	Psychologist
Mary Montville, RN	Community Outpatient Nurse
Gale Olitsky, PA	Physician Assistant
Norma Smith, RN	SCI Clinic Nurse
Theresa Spencer, C-NP	Practitioner/Education
Vivian Thomton, RN	Nurse Manager
David Turner, LSW	Outpatient Social Worker
Maureen West, LISW	Inpatient Social Worker
Jean Zierenberg, RN	CARF Rehabilitation Nurse
Spinal Cord Injury Outpatient Clinic	(216) 791-3800 Ext. 3062

PM&R (5th Floor) Staff

Mirza Baig, MD	Chief, PM&R
Gloria Norris	Rehabilitation Coordinator PT/KT/OT/Rec.T
Traci Piero, NP-C	Practitioner/Admission Coordinator
Joyce Carter, RN	Nurse Manager
Thomas Dixon, PhD	Psychologist
Kathy House, LISW	Social Worker

Community Resources

1. Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA)	www.pva.org	800-424-8200
2. American Society of SCI Nurses (ASSCIN)	www.aascin.org	(718) 803-3782
3. Spinal Cord Medicine Consortium Guidelines	www.pva.org/pvastore	
4. Consortium of Multiple Sclerosis Center	www.mscares.org	
5. National Wheelchair Poolplayers Association	www.nwpa-inc.com	(714) 636-3371
6. Parkinson Education Program of Greater Cleveland		(216) 486-0082